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The Spectator

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Volume LVIV
Number 21

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Dean of Students provides update to Student Assembly on College issues

by Amanda Kim '21
News Editor

On March 26, Hamilton's Student Assembly convened for its weekly meeting — this time with a special guest. At the meeting, Dean of Students Terry Martinez gave a presentation to update Assembly members on research she has been conducting during her first year on the Hill.

Martinez disclosed at the start of her presentation that what she was showing the Assembly was an abbreviated version of the presentation she had recently given to the College's Board of Trustees. The presentation, referred to on the official Student Assembly minutes as a "Presentation and update by Dean Terry Martinez on the State of the College with regard to Student Affairs," was a six-month review of Dean Martinez's findings regarding campus culture and what are, in her opinion, the most pressing issues facing the community.

Mental health on campus, a subject that has received recent increased attention from Student Assembly this year, constituted the first part of Dean Martinez's update. She noted that the school has begun to better codify the processes by which administrators follow up with and assist students of concern. Signs that alert the school to such concerns are a significant number of missed classes, information from resident advisors, or worried phone calls from parents.

Dean Martinez also updated Student Assembly on her concerns with the drinking culture on campus. She became concerned after she saw the number of alcohol transports that took place each weekend. Additionally, she compared data taken from the first-year intake survey and the survey taken at the end of each student's first year, finding that the percentage of students claiming "frequent beer consumption" at the beginning of of the year rose to from eight percent to 35 percent by the end of the first year on campus. She acknowledged that some increase in alcohol consumption was to be somewhat expected for first-year students, but pointed out that the 35 percent number was much higher in comparison to 27 percent at other schools. She also reported similar data for the "frequently consumed wine or liquor" statistic. "[This] shows me that we have a culture here where we are teaching students to drink," Martinez said.

Martinez investigated other parts of the campus culture as well. She said that while the collective student sense of belonging was relatively high, this was not the case for many students of color. "Our students of color felt more isolated from campus life. [For students of color] there was that lower sense of belonging, again, which was statistically significantly different. That really reinforced what I heard at the Posse Plus Retreat."

She concluded that this data made her "want to look more at diversity and inclusion," adding that while the Office of Admissions is working to diversify the student body, she still has concerns about the culture.

"Our students of color are ready to be at Hamilton, but is Hamilton ready for them? We need to broaden the definition beyond race. When we talk about these issues, I hear it as a black and white issue." She continued, "For example, I don't hear about our Asian students or our international students in these conversations. It is polarizing how we are addressing diversity on campus."

Martinez went on to explain how she is tackling this issue of diversity by utilizing the "multiplicity of experiences that people can bring to campus," telling the Assembly that the College is working on hiring both a Chief Diversity Officer and Director of the Days-Massolo Center.

Martinez also expounded upon issues of social life and the lack of social spaces on campus, promising to explore such concerns.

She also discussed her worries with the College's Greek life, particularly regarding hazing.

Specifically, she was concerned about medical transports of students during pledging. She explained how she has been working with students as well as experts and the Inter-Society Council to ensure that Greek life is a safe experience, pointing out that her goal was not to in any way eliminate Greek life, but rather to make it safer and more welcoming.

The last topic she touched on was residential life, stating: "We do not have a residential life model — we have a housing model that has disciplinary layered on top. There is nothing significantly different between the first year and senior year and I want to make sure that we have an experience that students can feel connected to."

Dean Martinez indicated that these issues came to her attention through extensive conversations with students, staff, and faculty, and she fittingly concluded her presentation with a mention of student involvement.

"One of the best parts of this is that students are engaged in the conversation," Martinez said. "I want to work with students. I want to explore ideas."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Dean of Students Terry Martinez joined the College from Johns Hopkins University this past Fall.

Hamilton senior struck and injured in motor vehicle accident on College Hill Road

by Charles Dunst '18
Editor-in-Chief

On March 26, a Hamilton College student was struck in a vehicular-pedestrian incident while crossing College Hill Road near its intersection with Griffin Road. The student, Tyler Rhind '18, indicated to *The Spectator* that he was struck from behind while coming back from the College's C.H.F. Peters Astronomical Observatory, located a short walk from the center of campus on Peters Lane. Rhind said he was crossing from the Griffin Road side of campus; "[the] sidewalk was in fifteen feet," he told *The Spectator.*

Mike Borek '18, who was walking with Rhind, said: "We were walking back from Griffin Obervatory when a car struck Tyler from behind, sending him into the snow and a ditch, and just missed me. 911 was called and help was gathered as responders arrived. The focus now is on making sure he has a speedy recovery."

Irina Rojas '18 witnessed the accident as well, telling *The Spectator*: "The friend of the student who was hit did a great job getting help, and it arrived quickly. Everyone was calm and collected, and it was reassuring to see that the student was in good hands. I wish the student a healthy and speedy recovery so they can enjoy their last few weeks at Hamilton."

The College alerted students to the crash on March 27.

"Dear Members of the Hamilton Community, Last night, while walking back from the Observatory, a student was struck by a car on College Hill Road. He was taken to the hospital where he was treated for injuries to his head, shoulder and leg. Thankfully, the injuries do not appear to be serious, but the student was kept for observation. We will continue to support him and his family as he recovers," read an all-campus email from the Dean of Students Office.

Rhind himself is in good spirits and is expected to make a full recovery. "I'm hanging in there," Rhind told *The Spectator* over text message. Listing his injuries, Rhind added: "Four staples in the back of my head, possible dislocated left shoulder, probable post concussion syndrome, and I can't see through my right eye more than two feet."

Kirkland Police, according to WKTV 2, CBS's local affiliate for the Mohawk Valley and Central New York, say Rhind and those with him were walking on the wrong side of the road, with traffic, and there was a sidewalk on the other side of the street. No charges have been filed against the driver nor Rhind; police say the investigation is still underway.

Four Hamilton College students named recipients of prestigious Watson Fellowship

by Benjamin Katz '20
News Editor

On March 19, four Hamilton College seniors were named as Watson Fellows. This prestigious fellowship, which accepts applications from seniors at forty colleges and universities in the United States, provides $30,000 for fellows to pursue "a year of independent, purposeful exploration" outside of the country. Each of the colleges that the Watson Foundation partners with are allowed to nominate up to four students for the Fellowship, meaning that Hamilton students received the maximum amount of fellowships available to the college.

The seniors receiving the awards are Kureem Nugent '18, Isabel O'Malley '18, Paula Ortiz '18, and Marquis Palmer '18. This year, the Watson Foundation received 152 applications for the Fellowships. This is the 50th year of the Watson Fellowship. Fellows hail from eight countries and 17 states; their range of projects is equally diverse. Many notable figures in academia, the arts, science, business, and politics have been Watson Fellows, including two current United States Ambassadors and current members of the House of Representitives.

Nugent, a sociology major, received his award for his proposed project entitled: "Cultivating Cultural Capital: Exploring the Path to College." During his fellowship, Nugent will explore access to higher education across different cultures. During the year, he intends to visit Chile, Finland, Germany, and Japan.

O'Malley, a psychology major, received her award for her project "Therapeutic Radio: Storytelling, Self-help, & Community Health Care." Through volunteering with hospital and community radio programs, O'Malley intends to learn how people share their experiences across different cultures. During the year, she will visit Russia, the United Kingdom, Spain, South Africa, and Brazil.

Ortiz, an art major, received her award for her project "Active Meditation Across Disciplines of Impermanence." Ortiz will study meditation across different religious, agricultural and artisanal communities. She will conduct her research in India, Japan, New Zealand, and Brazil.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

The four Hamilton winners of the Watson Fellowship (from left to right): Paula Ortiz, Kureem Nugent, Isabel O'Malley, and Marquis Palmer.

Palmer, a philosophy major, received his award for his project "Skateboarding Communities." Palmer will join skateboarding communities around the world and investigate how their values and customs are similar and different.

Strong Girls program aims to combat gendered stereotypes in sports

by Sarah Salimi '20
Staff Writer

A 2016 *TIME* magazine article, citing a 2013 study conducted by psychologists at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, explained that women are half as likely as men to engage or express interest in sports in fifty different countries. Another Grand Valley State survey, from 2014, had more inconclusive results; this time sampling 37 countries, the survey found that differences in interest and engagement between men and women were not statistically significant in some of the countries where they had previously been. In more competitive sports, however, such as basketball, the difference between men and women was astounding, with men participating at rates four times as high as women.

While evidence of gender-imbalances in sports participation is by no means conclusive, the research affirming this imbalance points to middle school as a turning point in male and female athletic involvement. Statistics show that girls and boys in fourth grade demonstrate equal interest in sports. However, some time between fourth grade and entry into middle school, girls begin to drop out of sports at a rate six-times higher than boys.

That's where Strong Girls comes in. Launched at Hamilton by Katherine Kreider '18 and Eleni Neyland '18, Strong Girls aims to combat gender stereotypes in athletics. At a college where there are many excellent female student-athletes, this program looks to connect with a variety of women and sports, bringing in college students of all years to local elementary schools and middle schools. The mentors are all female-identifying, although they are by no means all varsity athletes. Working with children between second and fifth grade, the mentors teach girls sports-related skills and activities. The goal is not necessarily to make them better at sports, but to encourage them to challenge gender stereotypes and expectations before they enter middle school.

"It's not a coincidence that beauty standards and gendered expectations start to really kick in at the same time that women start to drop out of sports," explains Neyland, co-founder and co-director of the group. "We want to fight that."

The idea for Strong Girls came from Kreider's high school basketball coach, Lani Silversides, who founded the organization My Strong is Beautiful, which also focuses on female empowerment through sports. Silversides wrote a curriculum that Strong Girls later adopted, giving mentors an exact idea of what sports to focus on each week, such as dribbling during soccer week. Strong Girls was the first of two pilot programs at colleges that sought to engage older women with girls in local communities. The Hamilton chapter is currently on its fifth semester, having started in January 2016.

Each semester, Strong Girls operates at three schools. This semester, it is running at Hart's Hill in Whitesboro, Andrew Edwards in Morrisville and Saqouoit Middle School in Saqouoit. The program costs forty dollars per person, but offers full financial aid scholarships to families in need. In high-need districts, the program is free, with the Community Outreach and Opportunity Project (COOP) covering the rest of the costs. The program typically runs for six weeks and Hamilton mentors visit the schools once every week. Neyland says the best measure of success is the enthusiasm that the girls and their schools have for the program. "The same schools always ask us to bring the program back, and we do. And, the girls who signed up for it the first time always come back," she says.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hamilton students Camile Walter '20 and Carly O'Hern '20 with students from Harts Hill Elementary School in Whitestown

For Neyland, the most rewarding part of the experience is witnessing the change in these young women first hand. She says: "There's always that one girl who is really shy and then comes into her own, or that girl whose parents made her sign up, but even they get really into it. That's the best part."

Teaching girls to love sports is about more than technical skill. According to Neyland, "Learning how to deal with a win respectfully, how to take a loss in your stride, to deal with refs, how to work on a team, these are all things that make women more confident and more empowered citizens."

Neyland also speaks of her own experience with lacrosse and field hockey and how it has made her more confident. "It's proven that women who engage in sports when they're younger are more likely than other women to run for office," she says. "That's not surprising. Sports isn't the only way to empower women; art is good and music is good, and so are a lot of other things, but there is tremendous value here and we need to make sure as a society that we invest in and validate the power of female athleticism."

Alternative Spring Break trips enable students to give back to communities

by Noelle Connors '21
Staff Writer

Over Spring Break, 51 students went on Alternative Spring Break trips to volunteer in various capacities. Three groups traveled to Virginia, Kentucky, and North Carolina to work with Habitat for Humanity. One group traveled to West Virginia for an environmental trip focusing on river clean up, and another traveled to Maryland for a community outreach trip focused on organizations that work with children. This year was the 25th anniversary of Alternative Spring Break trips, and were lead by AXB (formerly known as Alternative Spring Break), which now organizes alternative break trips during winter and fall breaks as well.

These trips allow Hamilton students to spend their break in ways that gives back to communities around the country. Sabrina Gattine '18, the coordinator of the AXB trips, describes the importance of this work, saying: "Many of us get wrapped up in our own worlds and forget to recognize the hardships that communities are experiencing just a van ride away. AXB gives students an opportunity to experience a different way of life and get a new perspective. Students who choose to spend a week of their break on AXB gain new skills, new friendships, and provide greatly needed manpower for organizations trying to improve their community."

Maggie Horne '19 co-led the Maryland trip. Last year, she decided to become involved in AXB as a leader because she says the trip she went on her first year to the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. "[It] transformed my first-year year and was a huge reason why I decided to continue my education at Hamilton," she said.

Horne adds that her trip this year was different from previous trips because it was not environmentally focused. "It was a cool experience to do a different type of service," she says. "This year was also different in a unique way. Because we were urban-based, the Hamilton Baltimore Alumni Group reached out to set up a meal with our trip to get to know more about what we were doing in the area."

Continuing, she says: "It was cool to hear about their Hamilton experience to see how things have changed and to let them know more about AXB as a program. All in all, the highlights of the trip for me were working directly with members of the community and getting to know Hamilton students I otherwise wouldn't have met here on the Hill."

AXB trips allow students an opportunity to spend one week of their break serving others and connecting with the Hamilton community while exploring new places, and learning valuable new skills that help them contribute more back on campus.

Gattine emphasizes the importance of these trips. "I am always amazed by the people we have the opportunity to meet on these trips, both from the Hamilton student body and the various organizations that we spend a week working for, whether that is a familiar face that you always pass on Martin's Way or an 82-year-old construction worker who has an unbelievable wealth of stories," she says. "In short, AXB is an unforgettable experience filled with amazing people who want to help make a change."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, March 05

12:13 a.m. Vehicle Towing – Faculty Lots

1:19 a.m. Smoke Detector – Eells House

6:59 p.m. Motorist Assist – Mail Center

10:22 Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Tuesday, March 06

8:05 p.m. Check the Welfare – McEwen Hall

9:02 p.m. Fire Alarm – South Hall

10:10 p.m. Smoke Detector – Skenandoa House

Wednesday, March 07

2:52 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

5:05 p.m. Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall

8:00 p.m. Fire Drills – South Campus

9:47 p.m. Smoke Detector – Bundy East

11:58 p.m. Noise Complaint – Milbank Hall

Thursday, March 08

2:55 a.m. Fire Alarm – Dunham Hall

7:56 p.m. Maintenance Issue – Commons Hall

8:00 p.m. Fire Drills – North Campus

8:30 p.m. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall

9:12 p.m. Noise Complaint – Bundy West

Friday, March 09

6:10 a.m. Alarm Activation – Wellin Museum

10:12 a.m. Area Check/Concern for Welfare – Off Campus

10:40 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

3:35 p.m. Concern for Welfare – Campus Safety Office

Saturday, March 10

1:30 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

8:23 p.m. Smoke Detector – Milbank Hall

Sunday, March 11

3:25 p.m. Fire Drills – Academic Buildings

7:11 p.m. Assist Student – Eells House

Friday, March 16

7:44 p.m. Hazardous Condition – Kirkland Hall

Monday, March 19

2:43 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall

Wednesday, March 21

8:41 p.m. Parking Complaint – Siuda House

9:18 p.m. Property Retrieval – Skenandoa House

Thursday, March 22

9:42 p.m. Area Check – Dunham Hall

Saturday March 24, 2018

7:29 p.m. Area Check – Alumni Gym

Saturday March 24, 2018

7:29 p.m. Area Check – Alumni Gym

11:05 p.m. Noise Complaint – Milbank Hall

First a March, then action

Over Spring Break, many Hamilton students stood (and marched) in solidarity with the victims and survivors of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida during the March for Our Lives on March 24.

From the March in Washington, D.C., where event organizers estimated that 800,000 people were in attendance, to the one in Homer, Alaska, where marchers numbered around sixty, the support for gun control measures has reverberated in a way that feels different from the aftermath of previous mass shootings.

Marches occurred in 55 American states and territories, while seven other countries took part as well. At the forefront of it all has been students, both those who have lived through mass shootings like the Stoneman Douglas students, and those who have seen second hand the horrors of this uniquely American reality.

Looking forward to the 2018 midterm elections in November, it is clear that the next generation of student leaders — in other words, us — possess both the drive and unity to take action this pressing issue that has been relegated to the legislative sidelines by lawmakers for a shamefully long time.

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Celebrating 170 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

March for Our Lives: the perspectives of three women

by Genevieve Shuster '20
STAFF WRITER

This past Saturday, March 24, many Hamilton students marched alongside over one million others in the multi-city March for Our Lives protest organized in response to the Parkland, F.L., shooting and the gun violence epidemic. Although the largest marches took place in Washington D.C. and other major cities, there was a significant turnout at smaller protests throughout the country, like White Plains and Utica, N.Y., as well as East Haddam, C.T., where Josephine (Josie) Blatt '21, Ashley Huntington '20, and Petra Elfstrom '18 marched, respectively. They graciously agreed to share their respective March experiences with me.

Although the Parkland shooting was the spark for organizing March for Our Lives, all three women's decision to march stemmed from a long-term frustration with governmental complacency regarding gun death that has been furthered by recent atrocities. Blatt was especially moved to march by recent school shootings and the inspiring activism of the Parkland students, "I decided to march because gun control has always been an extremely important issue to me. Also, I was very inspired by the activism of the Parkland high schoolers on social media, and by seeing so many young people speak out against the National Rifle Association (NRA) and Congress. I wanted to be a part of that. Ever since Sandy Hook, I've gotten very emotional upon hearing about these horrific shootings, and after Parkland I really thought, when is this going to end?" Blatt was moved to act by the recent atrocity at Parkland and the students' courage in their response. Parkland survivors have been speaking out in protests as well as in a variety of media platforms including "60 Minutes." Their ability to repeatedly confront the trauma they survived in the name of change has been inspiring to many. In addition to the long term frustration shared among the three women, Huntington's choice to march stemmed both from the courageous Parkland survivors and support of Black Lives Matter (BLM). Parkland survivors have been using their media platform to remind the public of how long gun violence has been ignored in black communities and how much important work BLM has done in drawing attention to the danger of gun ing for gun control. Hun worried for the safety of those she cares about: "I want gun control. I want gun safety. I find it ridiculous how 'normal' it has become to read headlines of more school shootings, more gun deaths at the hands of police officers, and more gun deaths by domestic abuse. It sickens me. I actually fear constantly whether my brother, a junior in high school, will be another victim, or if my friends could be, or even if I will be next. It's always running through my head. And it's horrible." Huntington recognizes the necessity of gun control not just in combatting mass shootings, but also police brutality and the frequent incidents of gun violence that happen within communities that don't make national news.

Huntington was impressed by the leadership shown by the students of Proctor High School in Utica who helped to lead the march that she attended. "The high schoolers from Utica's Proctor High School organized it along with other sponsors," she said. "It was amazing seeing their leadership." Although Huntington didn't orchestrate the March herself, she still played a active role, "I did informally lead some chants while we marched."

Elfstrom had the opportunity to speak at the roughly 500- person march that she attended in East Haddam, which her mother helped to organize. She was touched by the way that a teacher who was teaching in the Newtown High School on the day of the 2012 elementary school shooting

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

her speech. "[He] told me I captured the feelings he had had as a teacher at the high school in Newtown during the lockdown the day of the elementary school shooting," she said. "He told my mother later that he realized that day that he would put himself between his students and a bullet in a second, but it was devastating to hear that, because that isn't a conclusion anyone should have to make in a place of learning." This teacher's response gives us a insight into how emotional the March for Our Lives must have been for survivors of gun violence across the country who have already suffered great losses due to inadequate legislation.

Thankfully, all three protesters felt safe throughout their respective marches. For Blatt and Elfstrom, the presence of counter-protesters was unthreatening. Blatt described how marchers stood in front of a man holding up anti-abortion signs to peacefully challenge him and reject his ideology. Although Elfstrom also felt safe at her protest, she was upset that a nine year-old girl's speech reminding marchers of the fundamental role of Black Lives Matter in the fight against gun violence was interrupted by a hateful counter-protest, "It was more sad than anything, because they were shouting things at us that didn't even have anything to do with gun violence, like "Feminists Kill" and homophobic slurs. Equally upsetting and disgusting, but more confusing than anything. I just didn't understand how they could stand there and shout over a nine-year-old giving a speech. I didn't understand how they should be doing that looking at a long row of names of gun violence victims, the youngest two years old, that we'd put up along the road."

All three women hope that the marches result in increased voter turnout in upcoming elections. They believe that that voting out representatives who receive donations from the NRA is a clear path to policy change. Huntington's feelings about the importance of voting are very clear: "I think November's elections could be a monumental moment. I really hope that all those attendees across the nation go out and vote. Hopefully the majority votes for people who will not be bought by the NRA and for people who are for common sense gun control laws." Elfstrom feels similarly. "We need change in government policies and backing from those in power so that these things never happen again, and I hope our numbers and voices can do that or at least change enough minds of voters/ educate enough voters to be able to push out and replace those currently in power and not listening," she said. Voting is the most powerful way for civilians who are otherwise uninvolved in government to support the ideas they believe in by voting in candidates who will implement supportive policies. Fortunately, voter registration was a heavy focus of the White Plains march that Blatt attended. "I was very impressed by the people who were at all the marches registering voters, even telling seventeen year olds how to register in advanced," she told me. "I think the voters who are just now turning eighteen can really be a huge force in the midterm election in November."

Blatt, Huntington, and Elfstrom and a great many other Hamilton students who attended marches this past Saturday took an important step to demanding gun control by demonstrating to our representatives and our fellow citizens that this is not an issue people will roll over on. Many students at Hamilton are dedicated to being politically-engaged, as evidenced by the very successful protest organized by Hamilton students after the election of Donald Trump, Black and Latinx Student Union's (BLSU) campaign to wear black in protest of the Parkland Shooting, and a variety of other events. However, the reality is that as busy colleges students, it can be difficult to find time to travel to and participate in off-campus protests on a regular basis. These students made use of break to do so but they also find ways to remain engaged in the fight for gun control while school is in session; there are many ways that student can support pressing causes that they care about even if getting to a protest is not an option. Blatt donated to Every Town for Gun Safety, an organization that advocates for common sense gun reform. Huntington has called her state representatives and senators to express her views on gun control. She is also in the midst of researching candidates for the upcoming November election so she can place an informed vote. Petra plans to join Together We Rise, the organization her mother is a part of which planned the March in East Haddam, C.T., once she graduates. These three women's participation in the March for Our Lives as well as their other actions in support of gun control is a commendable model for how Hamilton students can support causes they believe in.

Thumbs Up

Nice days. I like the sun, and I love the weather.

That cool sweet spot at the beginning of the week, before I have a ton of new assignments. I'm pretty much free to watch Gossip Girl and get wine-drunk like I'm supposed to.

Nice Russian literature course offerings.

Thumbs Down

Common Ground/Great Names lecture this semester. I wonder errantly what it'd be like to hear someone who isn't a boneless, soulless neolib speak at this college. Luckily we'll never have to find out!

My five hour car-ride back to Hamilton. I got a $200 ticket on I-90.

Who Cares?

I got two packages on campus while I was away. Obviously I couldn't go get them. Now I'm back a week and a half later and I'm barely interested in them. It's just too late

There's apparently a WHCL concert coming up. Did you notice which column this one is in? I'll bet you did.

by Zachary Deming '20 and Ethan Dunn '20

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Sensationalized headlines do nothing to change Trump's "Stormy" presidency

by Gavin Meade '20
OPINION EDITOR

Stormy Daniels is the most recent name to be caught up in the latest wave of sensationalist headlines. The Playboy playmate and adult film actress has appeared on various news outlets and caused quite a hubbub with her claims about sexual relations with President Trump. Her most recent on "60 Minutes" drew the highest ratings the show has seen in the last ten years. More people watched Anderson Cooper interview Ms. Daniels than watched the 2009 post-inauguration interview with the Obamas. The reason for the increased attention and interest in this story is the element of intimidation.

From allegations of threats against Stormy in 2011, to the initial payment in 2016 stemming from one of the Trump attorneys (as well as questions of the possible campaign finance law violations raised by this payment) ,there is unquestionably a lot of interest in this story. This being said, the ultimate question is whether or not this will have any impact on Trump's presidency. I don't think it will. For me, this story tells more about the people that care about this kind of story than the President himself.

Anyone who thinks that the "Stormy and Trump" story is comparable in impact or potential in real change to the "Lewinsky and Clinton" debacle is either woefully idealistic or hopelessly ignorant. The hypocrisy between liberals and conservatives on this issue muddies the water and further detracts from the crux of the issue. It is disheartening, though not surprising, to see politicians, every day citizens, and members of the media be unable to judge a situation without viewing it from a politically oriented lens. The silence of all those conservatives, women especially, who came out during Trump's campaign decrying Clinton is deafening. These individuals were used to weaken Hillary's campaign (as if somehow her husband's infidelity was her failing and relates to her efficacy as president) and supposedly stood up for "moral values." Evangelical leader James Dobson, infamous for his support of Trump, gave lengthy sermons on the moral failings of President Clinton and how his relations with Lewinsky, as well as Gennifer Flowers, made Clinton morally defunct and unfit to lead the nation. Since Trump's ascension to the White House, Dobson has been silent on the Stormy Daniels story — as have all other prominent conservatives. There was a time when opposing pornography was on the top of the Christian Right's agenda; it seems we don't live in that time any more.

On the other side of the coin, liberals who were quiet about Clinton's misdemeanor are now eagerly condemning Trump. Hypocrisy and judgments of character relating to political 'righteousness' run rampant on both sides of the aisle. I fail to see the surprise and shock of my friends, family, and peers on the Left.

Trump's approval rating has not changed much since these stories started to break; this is because the people that voted Trump into office knew what kind of man he was. Our President has boasted about his infidelities numerous times and is well known for his attitudes towards women (best exemplified in the Access Hollywood tape). He does not claim to have moral high ground and dismisses these kinds of questions casually.

The only way that there will be any real damage to Trump's presidency is if it can be proven that he or his lawyer broke campaign-finance laws when they paid off Stormy Daniels. I doubt that any investigation into this matter will bear fruit.

If, by some miracle, the individual who made threats against Ms. Daniels came forward with evidence of Trump's involvement than there would be grounds for action. This is a fantasy.

The focus on this story does nothing more than make media outlets richer, bring Stormy Daniels attention, and distract from the legitimate issues with our President. Rather than focus on the Mueller investigation or any of the other myriad ongoing investigations and problems with our President, the American people are focused on his sexual relations with an adult film actress.

It's disheartening to see that the focus of the American people is so easily swayed by sensationalist headlines and tales of sexual exploits.

How students overuse stimulants and depressant drugs to get ahead on campus

by Elizabeth Foot '20
STAFF WRITER

Students at Hamilton are not underachievers. All of us are attending an elite, small liberal arts school. We have on campus jobs; we are athletes; we are tutors; we are volunteers; we are club members; we are friends.

It is difficult, sometimes impossible, to complete all the tasks we are assigned in the span of one day. By the time we get back to our dorm rooms and crawl into bed, our minds are buzzing with information. School, friends, that party this weekend, that text message, it goes on and on. It sometimes feels impossible to calm the thoughts down and fall asleep. Cue the Melatonin and ZzzQuil. While sleep medication is in issue in itself, this issue stems from pressures of and practices found in society.

This issue is further perpetuated by the consumption of neuroenhancers and other caffeinated or stimulant medications. College students today face a more competitive environment than ever before.

In order to stay ahead, to accomplish all that we are required to, it sometimes feels unavoidable to pop an Adderall, a caffeine pill or even a Five Hour Energy to complete, and excel at, all of our tasks. We have been taught and trained that we must be the best at everything that we do, and faced with situations where we feel we are lacking in time or ability, we will do what it takes to get ahead.

PICTURE COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

It is difficult in today's society, especially on college campuses, to resist the pressures placed on young people to meet the demands placed on us by school and extracurriculars. It is challenging to refuse any kind of advantage that can be found, especially when your peers are participating in such activities. I think it is essential for students to start putting their health first and success secondary when today, it comes at such a risk.

According to the US National Library of Medicine, ⅓ of adults struggle with medically diagnosed insomnia. It is possible that college students are so overworked that their brains too wired to fall asleep and these problems are beginning at an earlier age. Resorting to sleep medicine, however, should not be the first step. Besides the obvious fact that anyone thinking about starting medicine should consult their doctor, there are other ways to get back to the 9 to 11 PM. sleep routine.

According to a study at University of Georgia, college students get 6 to 6.5 hours of sleep when we should be getting 8. While it has been mentioned that college students, and Hamilton students especially, pack their days full, it is good to be reminded that every student everywhere has a circadian biological clock. Normally, your body starts to release higher levels of melatonin, the hormone that makes you tired, about two hours before you are routinely set to sleep. So, if you were in a habit of popping a Nyquil or some melatonin-inducing pill around 1 a.m. and falling asleep soon afterward, instead of continuing that cycle, challenge your body to readjust on its own. A big part of this means limiting caffeine in any form, that includes coffee, energy drinks, and drugs, close to bedtime.

So yes, if you are a diagnosed insomniac and are prescribed by your doctor to take sleep medicine, do it. But if not, the tried and true routine changes of less caffeine, earlier exercise, and monitoring the sleeping problem exists. If you do try these, and you still find you are having a hard time sleeping, try the medicine. But do be aware many of the long term effects have yet to be discovered, and by taking the medicine, you are disrupting your body's natural clock. So next time you pour that huge cup of coffee or tea to re-energize post-dinner and tell yourself you will just pop some sleep medicine after you are done, swap the drink for a fruit and water and keep the pills in the bag.

(Alternative) Spring Breakers

by Erica Ivins '21
Contributing Writer

While some students spent Spring Break traveling to warm parts of the world and others caught up on sleep, many groups of students adventured throughout the United States on Alternative Spring Break (ASB) trips. Through Habitat for Humanity, students volunteered to spend a week in various areas of the country, completing service projects that assist locals.

Many first-years gladly welcomed the opportunity to spend their first spring break as volunteers. First-year Nonso Mogor '21 participated in a ASB trip that traveled to Pittsboro, N.C. "I saw the school-wide email they sent out about going on a service trip over Spring Break, and I knew I wasn't going to be doing anything over break so I applied," said Mogor. "It was a great experience — one that most of us hadn't had before."

For other students, however, the most recent spring break was not their first spent with Habitat for Humanity. Sophomore Erin Walicki '20 went to Land Between the Lakes in Kentucky and Tennessee last year and Lexington, V.A. this year. "The people we meet [on the volunteer trips] are always so surprised that we would give up our spring break to do physical labor, but Hamilton's unique two-week break makes it possible for us to both relax as well as volunteer," said Walicki. "My groups were enthusiastic and motivated, and I think we all really enjoyed making a difference and feeling appreciated."

The trips involved students cooperating and coming together to do physical work, from continuing to build upon an already-started project to kicking off a new one. "Last year, we dug at an archaeological site, cleaned up an animal refuge, and built a fence at an 1850s working farm and living history museum," said Walicki. "This year, my group mainly worked on two houses — one was for a single mother and her three sons, which we sided and insulated. We hauled drywall and also laid block to make the foundation for another house."

Mogor's ASB group worked on houses as well. "The houses were mostly done when we got there, but there were still some important jobs that needed to be done that we helped with, such as installing doors and door-frames, closets, window frames, baseboards, installing siding outside the house, insulating crawl space, building porches, amongst other things," said Mogor. "Habitat for Humanity builds affordable housing for low-income families, and it was great to be able to help the cause."

Throughout the work, students also had the chance to experience the history and culture of the local communities.

"The site coordinators also allow us a day off to explore the local area. Last year, we spent the day in Nashville, and this year, we saw the historic Natural Bridge rock formation, which is a popular detour destination for many travelers like Lewis and Clark," said Walicki. "This year, [the volunteer supervisors] worked us hard throughout the day, but at night, Habitat board members and other locals welcomed us into their homes and fed us delicious meals. The incoming Dean of Faculty at Hamilton, Suzanne Keen, saw my group featured on the Lexington local news and invited us to her house for dinner, which was lovely."

Through this cooperative experience, students gained new knowledge, friends, and a feeling of success. "I learned how to use many power tools that I've never used before, and it was also great to see part of the process of how a house is constructed. I also made some new friendships with the people on my team, which is good," said Mogor. "I'm very happy with what my group accomplished. We made a lot of progress on the houses while we were there."

Walicki agreed: "I have loved both of my trips. I got to see parts of the country that I normally wouldn't visit, meet fun and driven Hamilton students, and most importantly make a difference in a community in need."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIN WALICKI '20

ASB trips, such as the one pictured above, required students to build houses for people in need as part of Habitat for Humanity.

Trashion Show in review

by Gabrielle Colchete '21
Staff Writer

Five models rocked the Fillius Events Barn runway at Hamilton College's sixth annual Trashion Show. This tradition wraps up Hamilton Sustainability Club's 'Recyclemania' as it challenges students to get creative with materials that are typically thrown away. The designers managed to incorporate, beautifully, materials as banal as garbage bags and toilet paper into creative outfits.

One of the dresses, modeled by Julia Dailey '18, included feminist overtones with strips of cardboard posters leftover from the Utica Women's March. These cardboard strips had large, bold phrases across them, such as "Bitches" and "#ElectMoreWomen." They were used as pleats on the skirt portion of Dailey's dress, which she stated was made of "balloon material." The incorporation of both feminism and environmental sustainability won this very woke outfit second place.

When asked by the judge who she would want to wear her dress, Dailey chose professor Nancy Rabinowitz, Professor of Comparative Literature, who had attended the Women's March with Dailey.

After only two days of planning, the Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG) designed an impressive black-garbage-bag dress, fiercely modeled by HEAG e-Board leader, Tierney Latham '21. This flattering dress incorporated braided garbage bag straps and an A-line skirt decorated with a magazine collage. To top it off, Latham wore a statement magazine-collage bow on top of her updo.

Although this dress did not make it into the top three, the simplicity of the materials is commendable. HEAG used materials that anyone could find around their dorm, thereby encouraging Recyclemania's main purpose.

Asha Grossberndt '21 was by far the most nimble of the models, cartwheeling down the catwalk. While the other designers went for springtime vibes in their dresses, Grossberndt's dress harkened back to winter imagery with the use of a sparkly white material resembling cheese cloth. The hem and neck of the dress were lined by cotton balls, intended to resemble clouds. Using toilet paper as a belt, the dress featured a cinched waist that suited the model. Out of all the dresses on the runway, this one would blend in the most with conventional non-trash clothing.

The singular male model, Michael Moubarak '21, boldly sported a loose-fitting trash bag dress. In many ways, this outfit resembled Dailey's trash bag dress, but deviated in fit and materials. For example, instead of using a magazine collage as an A-line skirt, Moubarak strutted in a colorful Hawaiian skirt. Made from old issues of *The Duel Observer* and *The Daily Bull*, among other student publications, it was clear that Moubarak put much thought into using materials that would have otherwise been discarded. The extravagant crown on top of Moubarak's head was made exclusively of *The Daily Bull* publications to give it a consistent yellow color. After winning third place, Moubarak graciously placed this crown on the mascot of Alexander Hamilton, who sat beside the judge.

Sarah Magee '18, who had been planning her outfit for a year, was an obvious first-place winner. Her ostentatious floor-length gown was made of royal blue table cloth, which she recycled from Hillel. Magee decorated the body of the gown with sundry origami flowers, hearts, and other springtime designs. Her purse, made of pipe cleaners and copies of a *Duel Observer* article, added a touch of comedy to the dress. These year-old copies had large font written across the page repeatedly stating, "THIS WOULD MAKE A GREAT TRASHION OUTFIT." Magee explained how she began to plan her outfit after this publication was released.

"I saw them in the dining halls after last year's trashion show, and I was like, 'you're on!'" she said.

Although every outfit displayed striking creativity and resourcefulness, the time Magee had put into planning her dress easily stole the show.

WORD ON THE STREET: March for Our Lives

by Will Andriola '21
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of the shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, F.L., in which 17 people were killed and 17 more were wounded, this nation has been embroiled in a newly invigorated conversation about the regulation of the ownership of firearms. This conversation culminated in its most visible form in the March For Our Lives, a protest organized by student survivors of the shooting, that took place on Saturday, March 24 in Washington, D.C., and more than 800 other U.S. cities.

Below are brief acounts from two members of the Hamilton community who attended this protest, Luke Carstens '21 and Ben Katz '20, exploring their motivations for attending and hopes for the future.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAGGIE DENOON '20

Millions of Americans turned out to participate in March for Our Lives protests all around the country.

Describe the protest. How many people were there, where was it, what was the general mood and atmosphere?

Katz: I went to the March for Our Lives on the Upper West Side and Midtown neighborhoods of Manhattan. I'm not sure of the specific number, but I think it was around 150,000 people. Overall, the mood was passionate.

Carstens: I went to the march in Washington D.C. There were tens of thousands if not hundreds of thousands of people there. The mood was mostly determined, not wildly passionate, but definitely pulsing for change.

What were your motivations or inspirations for going?

Katz: My mom was formerly a classroom teacher and principal, so making schools as gun-free as possible is an important issue for her, and therefore me.

Carstens: I went because I want the nation to know how strongly I feel about the issue of gun control, and so legislators would keep this in mind while campaigning this year.

What changes do you hope to see going forward with regards to this nation's gun laws? Do you believe those goals are attainable in the near future?

Katz: I think there should be stricter regulations of firearms. I think more robust background checks, which are supported by a vast majority of the American population, are a necessary step to prevent firearms from falling into the hands of those who should not be allowed to possess them.

I believe the 2nd Amendment is falsely interpreted to allow for the broad possession of firearms. I think there definitely is a strong movement regarding increasing gun-control laws in the U.S., but I am not that optimistic about their outcome. I believe that if the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in 2012 did not lead to stronger federal gun laws, the Parkland Shooting will similarly not lead to progress.

Carstens: I hope to see a ban on bump stocks, an increase on security levels of background checks, and perhaps even restrictions on the sale of assault weapons. These changes seem pretty realistic, particularly if Democrats do well in the 2018 midterm elections.

How engaged are you with politics? Have you gone to a political protest in the past? If so, how long have you been "politically active," and if not, what about this protest or cause in particular made you want to participate?

Katz: I would consider myself to be very engaged with politics, although, I have actually never been to a political protest.

I would say my first concrete memory of politics was watching the 2008 Democratic National Convention; I would say I've been "politically active" since then.

Carstens: I pay very close attention to politics, but this is the first political event I have attended. This cause is particularly important to me, however, because the personal safety of myself and all Americans is at stake with this issue.

What do you believe the impact of this protest or movement will be? Is there anything that makes it different than past gun control activism?

Katz: I think the protest will ultimately lead to certain restrictions being imposed by the federal government, but not the banning of assault-weapons, or the establishing of school gun-free zones.

Carstens: I can't speak to long-term impact, but I think that, in the short-term, this protest will increase rhetoric from politicians on the issue of gun control and make opinions like mine more accepted and more popular.

From Where I Sit:
Why I chose ESOL

Creating the college experience desired regardless of preconceptions

by Amanda Nuth '21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

During my first semester, I took ESOL, English for Speakers of Other Languages, 101.

I was born and raised in the U.S. and I have always been a student in its public education system. When I was choosing classes, I heard about ESOL, which promised to better my writing skills. However, I heard about the stigma surrounding ESOL courses: that it was a course for people who cannot speak English, or it is only for international students. Well, I can speak English fluently as well as speak another language, and I am not an international student. But, don't all students need to speak English to get admitted into Hamilton College?

I found out there is more to learn in ESOL than just learning how to write American academic essays. In Don Miguel Ruiz's book, *The Four Agreements: A Practical Guide to Personal Freedom*, he emphasizes the following four agreements: speak with integrity, don't take anything personally, don't make assumptions, and always do your best. I learned that if I had made assumptions and acted upon them, I would have regretted not taking both ESOL courses. In this class, I have had the opportunity to write essays about the role of discrimination in various social movements.

There is more to ESOL than the stigma associated with purportedly lacking proficiency in English. As liberal arts students, we have to be open-minded so we do not allow stereotypes to stop us from seeing what is beautiful and real in a multiracial, multicultural, multilingual population. We are prone to base generalizations on insufficient evidence from people who think they are "experts." However, I decided for myself that the choices I would make when taking into account the speculations, which I perceived to be just generalizations.

Professor Britt Hysell, Director of the English for Speakers of Other Languages Program, continues to do a wonderful job. The course would not be as effective as it is if it were not for the efforts put into the program. I appreciate the fact that she will be my writing guide for all four years at Hamilton College. It means that there is an individual who will guide me on the right path and unconditionally aid me in my struggles.

I understand that there are specific values that are pertinent to certain cultures. She has taught me to "accept" people rather than "tolerate" them, and that it is easy to see differences, but it is difficult to see similarities and make connections despite those differences. I was enlightened and astounded at the fact that diction has a significant impact on how perspective is fashioned.

These are the kind of moments which I felt I truly learned something, that a lightbulb not only turned on, but it shined into the darkest corners of my brain. There is much to learn about being an individual and living during this time when discrimination and violations of human rights are rampant. I would like to change how I think in order to change how I act, talk, and write. Maybe, something simple as this would flourish grandiose results when done collectively.

ESOL has helped me develop a different way of thinking that is open to ideas and other perspectives. I have developed more confidence in my writing. I do not need a grade to tell me when I should be satisfied with my writing. In essence, there is a slight personal freedom that I get when I write my papers: I have a voice. I took a step in shedding stereotypes the first time I entered the classroom. There is no typical ESOL student. I do not take it personally when someone quizzically comments: "You're in ESOL?!" It is my choice to continue working in the ESOL program, because in everything I do, I strive to always do my best.

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to international students' voices. If you are interested in contributing a piece, contact Features editors at featspec@hamilton.edu

SEX & the Campus: Stormy

Daniels and the Ethics of Consent

by Lucy Munves '19
Head Production Editor

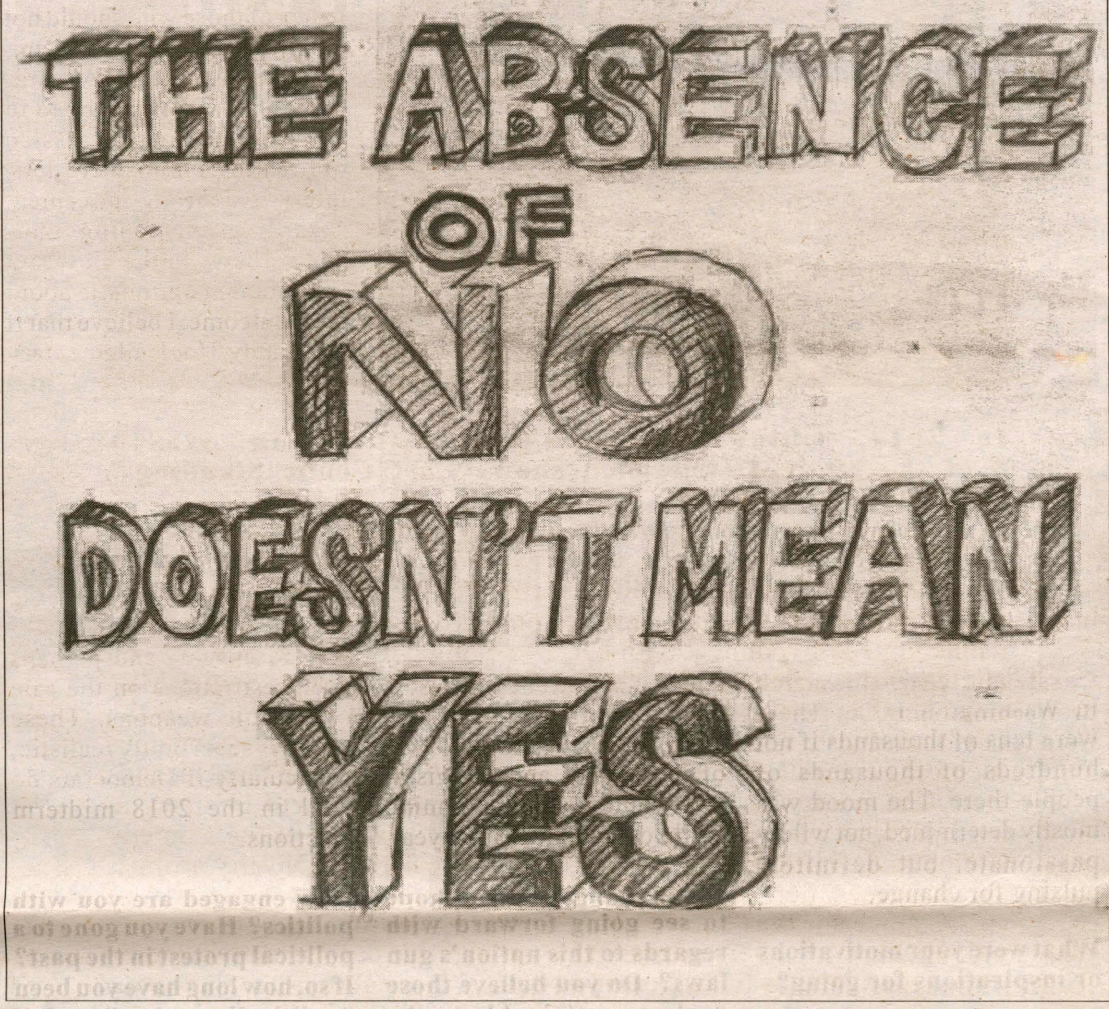

ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG '20

When it was announced that former adult-film star Stormy Daniels, with whom President Donald Trump allegedly had an affair, was appearing on CBS's "60 Minutes" for an interview, I knew right away that I needed to watch. Like many others, I was intrigued by the story of Trump's affair; I also cringed at the idea of Trump in his underwear. My friends and I laughed at the stories Daniels told, equally entertained and horrified.

Perhaps one of the most poignant moments in the interview occurred when Anderson Cooper pressed for details about Daniels' sexual encounter with Trump. Daniels said that after using the restroom, she returned to find Trump sitting on the edge of the bed in her hotel room. Daniels revealed her reticence to engage in any kind of sexual contact with Trump, but, apparently, she "had it coming for making a bad decision for going to someone's room alone." All I heard in my head was, "Well, you put yourself in a bad situation and bad things happen, so you deserve this." She went on to explain that she did indeed have sex with Trump, despite her reservations. Cooper: "Did you want to have sex with him?" to which Daniels responded, "No. But I didn't — I didn't say no." And there it was — the explicit statement that this woman did not consent to having sex with Trump.

I don't doubt that, as a result of Hamilton's various Title IX programming, most individuals on this campus understand the concept of affirmative consent. The absence of "no" does not mean "yes." This phrase is proclaimed throughout first-year orientation and Title IX training and is firmly established within our campus policy. Yet, here is a crystal clear example that violates this clause. Stormy Daniels never verbally consented. Daniels claims that the entire interaction was consensual and does not feel violated in any way. This is, obviously, a good thing. Still, this mindset reflects a deep internalization of an extremely condemnatory sexual culture. Despite her complete lack of attraction to Trump — and her corresponding lack of desire to have sex with him — Daniels feels as though she is still at fault.

It is easy to say that Daniels was not at all obligated to have sex with Trump after he had bought her dinner and invited her to his hotel room. Yet this self-blame for unwanted sexual encounters is all too common among women, painting a fairly damning portrait of the culture of consent in this country. Much of the rhetoric around the #MeToo campaign involved women's responses to unwanted sexual advances, particularly by older men in a position of power.

Vice President Mike Pence has also addressed this problem, explaining that he refuses to be alone with any woman except his wife. The concept may appear as a precautionary way to avoid allegations of sexual misconduct. However, it points to a larger narrative in which men are not in control of their actions — and therefore unaccountable for them — and minimizing women's agency and power. This narrative implies that if a man and a woman are alone behind closed doors, something is bound to happen. In this case, who should be blamed?

In an incident of sexual impropriety, the burden of blame too often falls on women. When women bravely come forward and share their experiences, every aspect of the encounter is suddenly up for inspection. "What were you wearing?" "How much did you drink?" "Had you had sex before?" These questions are used as a means to justify men's actions and absolve them of any wrongdoing. As a result, women are made to apologize for the actions of others, continuing this cycle of victim-blaming and rape culture continues. This incident with Stormy Daniels is no different, with many even using her career as an adult-film star to justify the lack of affirmative consent in this encounter. Stormy Daniels deserves better. We all do. Everyone deserves to feel as though they have complete agency over their sexual experiences, and not that such an act is "owed" because you didn't pay for dinner.

The #MeToo movement has sparked a much-needed national conversation about sexual misconduct and accountability. For America, there is clearly still a lot to learn. I'm not trying to speak for Daniels' experience or tell her how to feel. Still, we need to take a long, hard look at the way we think about and define consent. Are we doing as good of a job as we think we are? Stormy Daniels does not feel as though she was sexually assaulted, yet a vital piece was missing in her interaction with Trump — "yes." In the era of #MeToo, we have to learn how to reconcile with the necessity of consent, even if it feels like one is fumbling with their words when asking to remove a sexual partner's shirt or pants. We have to raise our standards in order to enact change.

Specstrip

Comedian Chloe Hilliard will headline CAB's next comedy show

by Zac Ball '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is bringing the comedian Chloe Hilliard to campus on Tuesday, April 17. The opener, who is yet to be announced, will go on at 8pm in the Fillius Events Barn. Hilliard was originally supposed to perform on campus in September, but she cancelled, due to an unexpected opportunity to collaborate on a project with Kevin Hart.

Chloe Hilliard grew up in Brooklyn, NY and uses material from her upbringing in her comedy. Growing up in a Hasidic Jewish neighborhood, she often jokes about believing she was Jewish until her thirteenth birthday when she received the news that she was not.

She talks about wanting people to walk away from her shows just having appreciated and connected with the humor. Hilliard started her career in journalism and enjoys using comedy to connect with her audience through multiple channels. She has performed her comedy on multiple television shows, including the hit NBC show "Last Comic Standing."

During an interview with Harry Connick Jr., Hilliard reveals that she has been her current height (6'1") since she was twelve years old. Hilliard uses herself and her own experience to tell jokes in a very affable and humorous way. I watched a lot of her stand up videos while sitting in the KJ atrium, and she has a way of delivering jokes that keeps her audience interested and engaged in the story she's telling. Her content is different and exciting: I cannot wait to see the routine that she brings to campus on April 17.

She also has a podcast on Soundcloud, called "Social Misfit with Chloe Hilliard." On the podcast she hosts guests, and does some self-promotion for her standup routines. She will be opening for Russell Peters at the Comedy Zone in Charlotte, North Carolina, from April 12 to 14.

She tells stories about growing up, family, dating, and her own future. Everything she talks about is extremely topical and relatable. All of the topics she covers provoke huge responses of laughter and encourage from the audience, so this bodes well for her CAB performance in a couple of weeks.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In 2014, Chloe Hilliard was featured in Season 8 of the hit NBC television show "Last Comic Standing."

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Chloe Hilliard will perform at Hamilton on April 17.

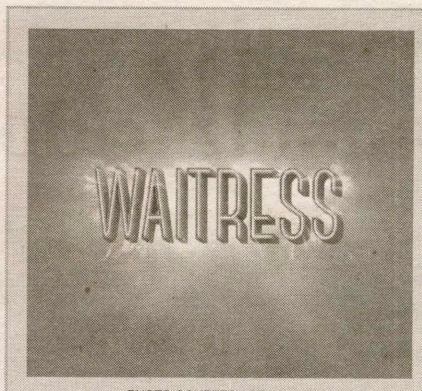

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Spotlight on *Waitress*

CAB will bring up to 55 students to see the Tony-nominated musical on April 14

Notable Awards and Nominations

Best Musical
Tony Award Nomination

Best Orginal Score (Sara Bareilles)
Tony Award Nomination

Best Musical Theater Album
Grammy Award Nomination

Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical (Christopher Fitzgerald)
Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards Winner

Outstanding Musical
Drama Desk Award Nomination

PHOTO COURTESY OF PEOPLE MAGAZINE

Katharine McPhee, known for her runner-up status on the fifth season of *American Idol,* and lead roles in the television shows *Smash* and *Scorpio,* will take over as Jenna, the leading role in *Waitress* on April 10.

Column: CAB Corner

Campus Activities Board to bring students to see the hit broadway musical *Waitress*

by Mary Bei Prince '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This year, the Campus Activities Board (CAB) continues its tradition of bringing students to the Big Apple with its spring trip to see the musical *Waitress*. Based on the 2007 film of the same name by Adrienne Shelly, the show centers around Jenna Hunterson, a small town waitress and expert pie baker.

Trapped in an abusive relationship with her husband Earl, her life is further complicated when she unexpectedly becomes pregnant and begins an affair with her gynecologist Dr. Jim Pomatter– who hesitates to leave his practice and his wife. Jenna fears she may have to abandon her dream of opening her own pie shop forever, that is, until she discovers a baking contest.

Supported by her fellow waitresses and loyal customers, Jenna finds the courage to pursue her dreams. The creative team behind the musical first came together in 2013 and includes singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles – whose track "Love Song" reached number four on the Billboard Hot 100 Chart in the same year that the musical's namesake film was released. Premiering at Cambridge's American Repertory Theater in August 2015, the show's initial success led to its Broadway debut at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre in April 2016. The show earned four Tony nominations in 2016, including one for Best Musical.

Along with providing access to quality performances like these well-known Broadway productions, CAB's special events sector also plans on-campus events, like the annual Carnival, which gives first -- years their first glimpse of CAB programming. Rather than adhering to events that occur year after year, CAB is shifting to new programs that embody a certain 'specialness': ones that are new and exciting but also inclusive of Hamilton's entire student body.

For example, CAB recently hosted a silent disco – complete with three different musical stations and funky lights – in the barn and organized an outdoor ice rink on the Babbitt pavillion to celebrate 100 years of Hockey at Hamilton. Both events allowed students a fun, substance-free outlet.

Hamilton College Choirs tour the Northeast, stopping in Boston, Fairfield, Philidelphia, and NYC

by Andrew Projansky '21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Over the first week of spring break, the Hamilton College Choirs toured around the northeast, performing in venues from Boston to Connecticut. Two choir groups came on the trip: College Choir and College Hill.

The first stop was Boston. After a long and groggy bus ride Saturday Morning, we were able to spend Sunday both exploring the city and performing at Old South Church. Monday came as a rather chaotic day, and we were first bussed to Fairfield, CT to sing in a collaboration with the choirs at Sacred Heart University.

We were going to spend a night in Fairfield, but after one of our buses broke down -- and then trying to keep up with the incoming winter storm on its way, the decision was made to go straight to our third stop. We sang a nice set and then went back on the bus to go to Philadelphia. After a few chaotic days of travel and getting used to touring, it was nice to spend three nights in the same house.

With this time in Philly, we had opportunities to really explore the city on both Tuesday and Wednesday, even with the concert we had on Tuesday. Afterwards, we left for our final destination of New York City. With tired voices, but smiles on our faces, we sang at our final venue that night and departed for Hamilton the next day.

In each of the venues at which we performed we had an opportunity to sing a diverse repertoir of songs. College Choir sang pieces from religious texts, "The Last Words of David," to the fast-paced Bollywood song "Balelaka." Some of the pieces were on the topic of coming out of the closet, and other pieces were more traditional. The College Choir balanced contemporary, classical, and romantic period pieces. College Hill's set was not as chronologically diverse, but had an emphasis of Polynesian music. Two of the five pieces College Hill sang were written by composers of Polynesian descent. Although the pieces are diverse, they are linked by common themes that deal with experiencing turbulence. From Mozart's "Te Deum," being written at a time when he was trying to gain independence from his father, to Eric Whitacre's "Sleep," about the need for rest and quiet after facing pressures and pain, the pieces were intertwined by the tour's theme: "Out of the Void, and Into the Darkness."

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE CHOIRS

The Hamilton College Choirs perfoming school song "Carissima" with alumni in Philidelphia.

The best parts of tour for myself, and I think for the entire choir, were singing and of our time off. The experience of singing was a source of joy. Even through interruptions (Our Boston concert featured a heckler) we were able to appreciate the sonic and emotional qualities of each performance space.

Although each concert featured the same set of songs, the experience of performing was always new and exciting. I personally got to explore both new places I had never been to and new parts of places with which I was familiar.

The camaraderie and way I got to spend time with my friends was different than any time we had spent on campus in the best way possible. The choir grew closer as a whole; something that is worth any amount of sporadic changes of plans and chaos of traveling across states in the bus.

Javier Colon, season one winner of NBC's "The Voice," to perform at next CAB Coffeehouse

by Emily Rivito '21
A&E CONTRIBUTNG WRITER

On April 5, musician Javier Colon will perform in the Barn as part of the Campus Activities Board's (CAB) Acoustic Coffeehouse Series.

Colon is best known for winning the first season of NBC's singing competition "The Voice." His musical career, began well before that.After growing up in Stratford, CT, he attended University of Hartford's Hartt School of Music. While studying, he formed an R&B a cappella quintet that performed at the legendary Apollo Theater in Harlem. After graduating with a degree in music education, Colon became the lead singer of EmCQ, a band that played predominantly funk music and paid tribute to many artists, including Stevie Wonder. Colon then toured for two years with the Derek Trucks Band, playing rock, soul, blues, and jazz music for audiences.

At the age of 24, Colon signed with Capitol Records and released his first album, *Javier*, in 2003. A mix of R&B, jazz, and blues dominates this album, and its first single, "Crazy" reached #42 on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs Chart and #95 on Billboard Hot 100. Three years later, Colon released his second album, *Left of Center*, which showcased his eclectic and varied taste in music and his nonconformist approach to R&B.

In 2010, Colon released a six-song EP called "The Truth" under his own record label, Javier Colon Music. One year later, Colon auditioned for "The Voice", impressing the judges with his rendition of Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time." He is one of only a few contestants in the show's history to be chosen by all four judges.

Throughout the season, Colon captivated audiences with his versatility, at some times crooning smoothly and at others showcasing the power of his tenor voice. He covered various songs, including Ben E. King's "Stand by Me," Sarah McLaughlin's "Angel," and Coldplay's "Fix You." On the season finale, he clinched his victory with a performance of the Fleetwood Mac classic "Landslide" with Stevie Nicks.

After winning "The Voice", Colon signed with Universal Republic Records and released his third album, *Come Through For You*. The album features collaborations with Adam Levine and Kris Allen. Colon also accompanies Natasha Bedingfield on the guitar in the energetic "As Long As We Got Love." In 2016, he signed with Concord Music Group and released his fourth album, *Gravity*, in which he laments over disappointing someone in a relationship.

Colon continues to be active. Musically, as in addition to his albums, he also creates content for his YouTube channel, where he sweetly sings Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You" while playing the guitar with Jordin Sparks. An interview with Broadway radio host Seth Rudetsky revealed Colon has desires to pursue career opportunities on Broadway in the future. He has also performed for multiple events over the past year, including the Pacific House organization's Close to Home Youth Concert, an event raising money for homeless youth. Javier Colon's down-to-earth original songs and covers combine with a voice that has the power to fill the room with its emotions.

Next week, he will bring what he describes as his "acoustic soul" to Hamilton College.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Javier Colon will perform at the Events Barn for the CAB Coffeehouse on Thursday, April 5.

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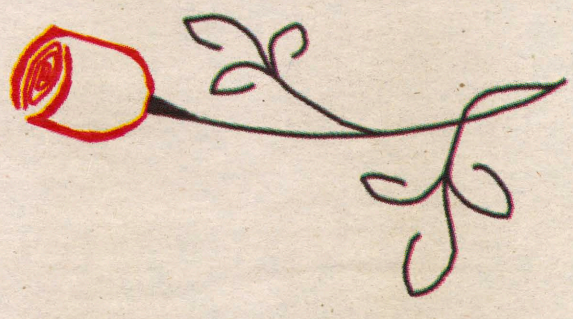

2018 MLB Opening Day preview: contenders are few and far between

by Kyle O'Connor '18
Contributing Writer

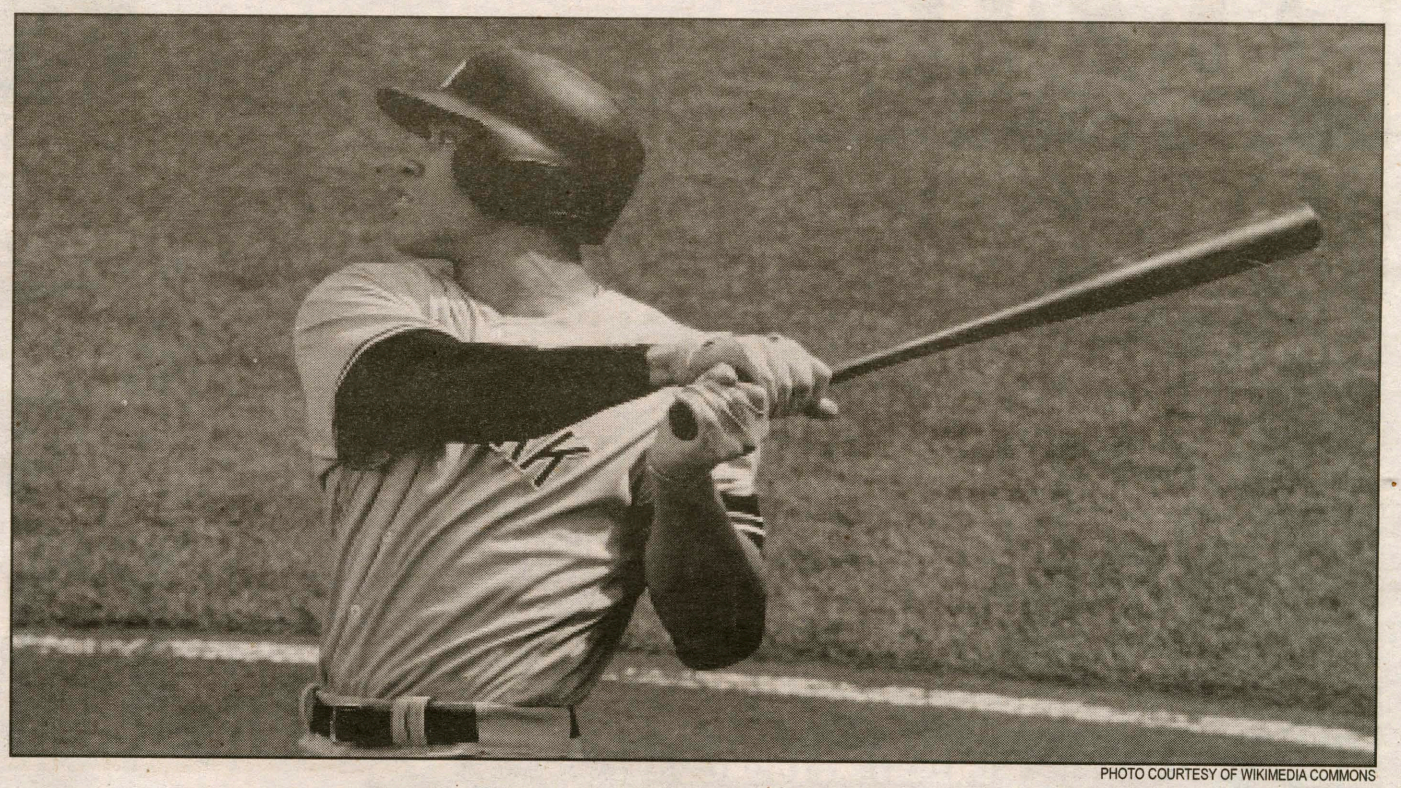

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Aaron Judge proved himself to be the king of dingers, hitting 56 home runs in 2017.

Baseball season is finally here! After the slowest offseason and spring training in terms of front office action in years, it seems as though the sport has been overshadowed by a surging NBA, a particularly maddening March, and the never-ending quarterback carousel of the NFL. At just the right time, Opening Day has arrived.

One question posed to me about the current state of MLB is if it is in fact turning into the NBA. As confusing a question as it may seem, the comparison is in reference to the lack of the parity in both leagues. The NBA has seen its seasons become predictable over the past several years, as Lebron James has made seven consecutive finals appearances and Kevin Durant joined a record-breaking Warriors team to create the most dominant level of talent ever assembled on one team. Cavs versus Warriors Part IV? It is not really much to get excited about anymore.

The MLB could be very well headed in that direction, albeit with more teams in contention. The gap between the great teams and the average teams in baseball is wider than ever before. Heading into this upcoming season, it seems as though maybe six or seven teams truly have a chance at winning it all. Each of those teams are loaded, mirroring the superteam trend that has permeated the NBA in the past few years. While baseball will not mirror the predictability of recent NBA seasons, I would be shocked if anyone other than the Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees, Cleveland Indians, Houston Astros, Washington Nationals, Chicago Cubs or Los Angeles Dodgers stands atop the league come Nov. 1. Below is a comprehensive season outlook for each contender.

The **Red Sox** stumbled into their second consecutive American League (AL) East title in 2017, as it seemed for much of the season that the Yankees were really the better team. This team is returning all of its key starters and added JD Martinez's 45-homer bat to a lineup that hit the fewest home runs in the American League last season. The team will also be returning a healthy David Price to an already dominant staff from 2017. If he can just delete social media and somehow recapture his 2012 form, this team will be a force to be reckoned with come October. A 95-win season seems attainable for this squad.

As mentioned, the **Yankees**, although not capturing the AL East crown in 2017, were a better team than the Sox for much of the season. This team has become a contender far sooner than anyone thought; they were one win away from the World Series in 2017. The Bronx Bombers will lead the league in home runs this year, behind second-year sensation Aaron Judge and offseason acquisition Giancarlo Stanton. Their lineup will be formidable, but can their rotation hold up for a full season? After ace Luis Severino, the starting staff is nothing but question marks.

The **Indians**, like the Red Sox, are returning nearly all of their key pieces from the 2017 squad that won 102 games. A healthy pitching staff and a lineup free from regression can easily get this team back to 100 wins. The Tribe was one win away from their first World Series title since 1948 in 2016; it is clearly championship or bust for them in 2018.

The **Astros** capitalized on the greatest rebuild in sports history and fulfilled the *Sports Illustrated* prophecy with their first World Series title in 2017, and only got better heading into 2018. Full seasons from Justin Verlander, Dallas Keuchel, and Lance McCullers along with the addition of former Pirates' ace Gerritt Cole will make this staff the best in the American League, if not the MLB. The lineup is dominant from top-to-bottom and will be headlined once again by Jose Altuve, who is looking to become the first AL player this century to repeat as MVP, and Carlos Correa, who hopes to keep all of his ligaments intact and give him a run for his money. If all goes well, this team will both repeat as champs and dominate for years to come. This might be the last real chance for the **Nationals**. Bryce Harper will be looking to become the league's first $400 million dollar man this upcoming offseason, and the Nats do not seem to want to foot that bill. This is a team that, despite all their talent that has been amassed over the last five years, has failed to get over the proverbial hump in the postseason. It is unbelievable that this team has yet to win a playoff series since its inception. If they can finally shed their demons in 2018, this can be the Nationals' year. It is also probably their last as a true World Series contender.

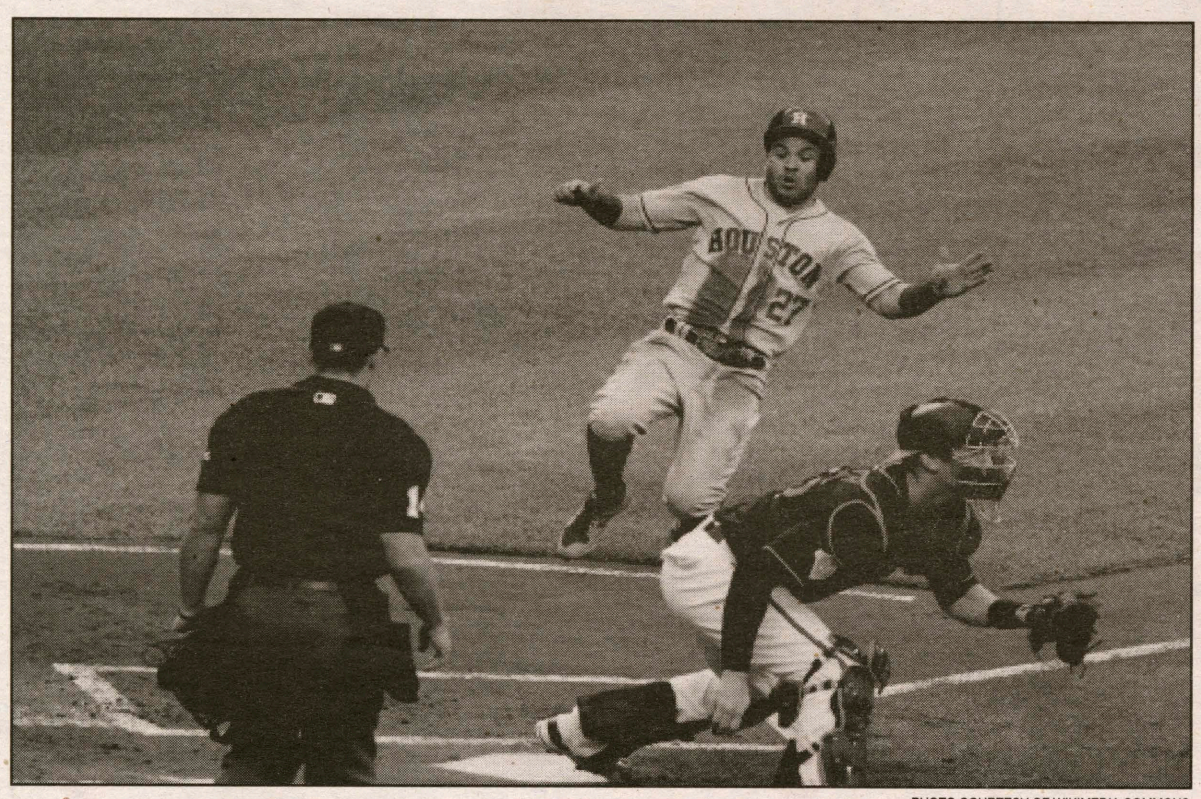

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Jose Altuve hopes to lead the Astros to back-to-back World Series wins.

The **Cubs**, although I am counting them as a contender in 2018, are overrated. This is a team that saw almost all of their key contributors regress across the board in 2017; no one from the 2016 title team featured in the All-star game. Granted, the Cubs still managed to make it to the NLCS, losing to the superior Dodgers. The pitching staff will be the strength of this team in 2018, as they added Yu Darvish and will get a full season out of Jose Quintana. A lot needs to happen for the Cubs to return to their 2016 form, especially in the lineup. However, this team is young, and should contend for at least a few more years.

The **Dodgers** were a win away (yes, that's true for multiple teams) from a World Series title last season. They share postseason demons with the Nationals, it seemed, until they were finally able to capitalize on their talent last October. Chris Taylor and Cody Bellinger were pleasant surprises last season, and should look to build on their MVP-level production in 2018. Losing Justin Turner for the first month won't help, but the Dodgers have enough talent elsewhere in their lineup to compensate. If Rich Hill can be blister-free for a full season and perform into October, this team will get that extra win, their first big one since 1988.

In other news, the **Marlins** might actually lose 125 games in 2018. They are going to be that bad. Could the Marlins be Montreal bound? Honestly, Montreal may not even want them.

Loyola-Chicago's Cinderella story defines 2018 NCAA basketball tournament

by Cliff Musial '21
Staff Writer

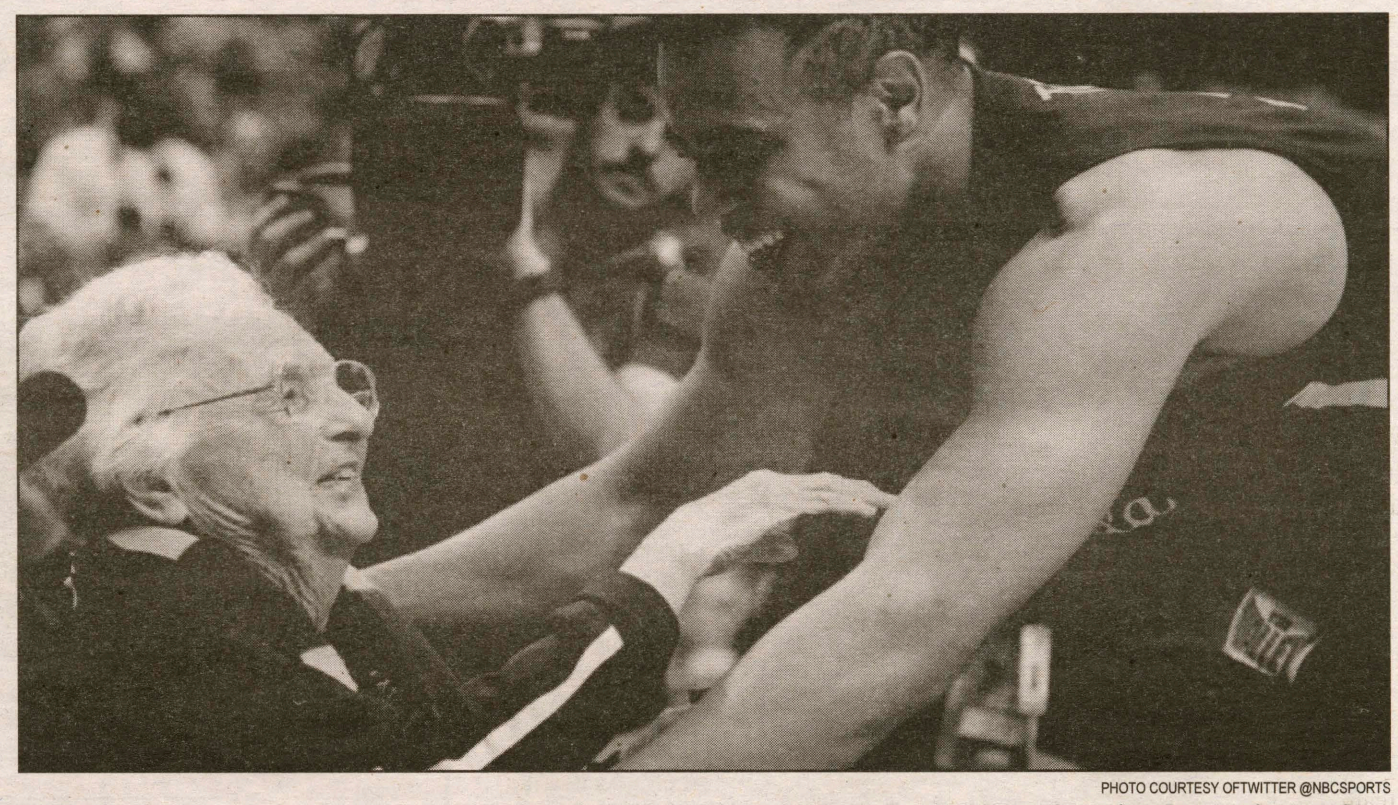

PHOTO COURTESY OFTWITTER @NBCSPORTS

University of Loyola-Chicago's team chaplain, Sister Jean, has inspired an improbable Final Four run for the Ramblers, a team that has not won a championship since 1968.

Following the typical swath of dramatic upsets and predictable blowouts, only four teams remain in the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament. This year, Loyola University Chicago, University of Michigan, Villanova University, and the University of Kansas have made it to the Final Four. Each team brings unique strategies, stories, strengths, and weaknesses to the court.

Michigan had an unsteady road to the tournament, encountering some bumps and uncertainty early. In January, they lost to Nebraska, a team that didn't make it to the tournament, by twenty points. However, as their season progressed, the Wolverines found their footing and settled into a winning streak that remains unbroken, thanks to John Beilein's coaching and their insurmountable defense, which is arguably the best of the Final Four teams. Throughout the tournament, they have kept their opponents low scoring, with only Texas A&M managing to score above seventy; and even then, Michigan put in 99 points in one of the most high scoring games this March. Michigan, a three seed, faces a considerable challenge in defeating either Villanova or Kansas in the championship. First they must face Loyola, and test whether their strong defense can hold out against Loyola's miraculous stream of upsets, before worrying about the national championship.

On the other side of the bracket, Villanova boasts the best team — at least on paper. The Wildcats are the overall highest ranked team in the tournament, and have shown nothing to contradict this in their stream of dominating victories, winning every game by eleven points or more. Mikal Bridges and Jalen Brunson are two of the best players in the NCAA, and will undoubtedly lead Villanova to success. It is relatively unlikely that any team could beat the Villanova Wildcats, and if they do, it will surely be a close game. They face Kansas this Saturday, and the winner of the two will go on to face the winner of Loyola versus Michigan in the championship.

The University of Kansas, though not quite as dominant as Villanova, has a number one seeded team that will certainly test Villanova's meddle. They also have their share of star players — Udoka Azubuike, Devonte' Graham, and Sviatoslav Mykhailiuk - who all will likely have futures in the NBA. They've had some close games leading up to the Final Four, most notably against Seton Hall and Duke. Kansas won by only four points against the eight seed Seton Hall, and their starter Azubuike fouled out against Duke and against Clemson in the previous round. A star player fouling out in two out of four games could bode poorly for the team in the future, but if he can play most of the game against Villanova, Kansas has a good chance to advance to the national championship.

The last team to make it to the final four, and certainly the most unlikely, is Loyola University Chicago. They've had a miraculous run through the tournament, winning three extraordinarily close upsets in a row, before blowing away Kansas State to reach the final four. They boast an agile and precise offense and a solid team. Coach Porter Moser has played the team's offensive strength very well, forcing teams to keep up with their volleys of shots, but, ultimately, their success has been very precarious. They won by only one point against Tennessee and Nevada, and if they slip by Michigan, the score will not be nearly as close. That's not to say that Loyola has won these games merely by luck - Moser, the coaching staff, and the team, closely studied the strategies of the teams they played, and worked around their strengths and played upon their weaknesses. Before their most recent game against Kansas State, the Loyola Ramblers mapped out every one of their opponent's plays, figuring out counters. This is a fairly common strategy, especially in high-level basketball, but Loyola was able to do it effectively enough so that they could defeat teams that may have had better individual talent or a more skilled team. Nonetheless, at the end of the day, the Ramblers won because they simply played better basketball.

There is a wave of popular support for Loyola — people love underdogs — but also perhaps because of their charming mascot that has captured the hearts of many: Sister Jean. A 98 year-old nun and Loyola's chaplain, Sister Jean who prays with the team before games and provides support from the sidelines. Though the odds are against the small, Catholic Chicago school, the odds have been against them the whole tournament, but that has not seemed to have hindered them thus far. Whatever the result, the Final Four games and national championship will be exciting and worth watching.

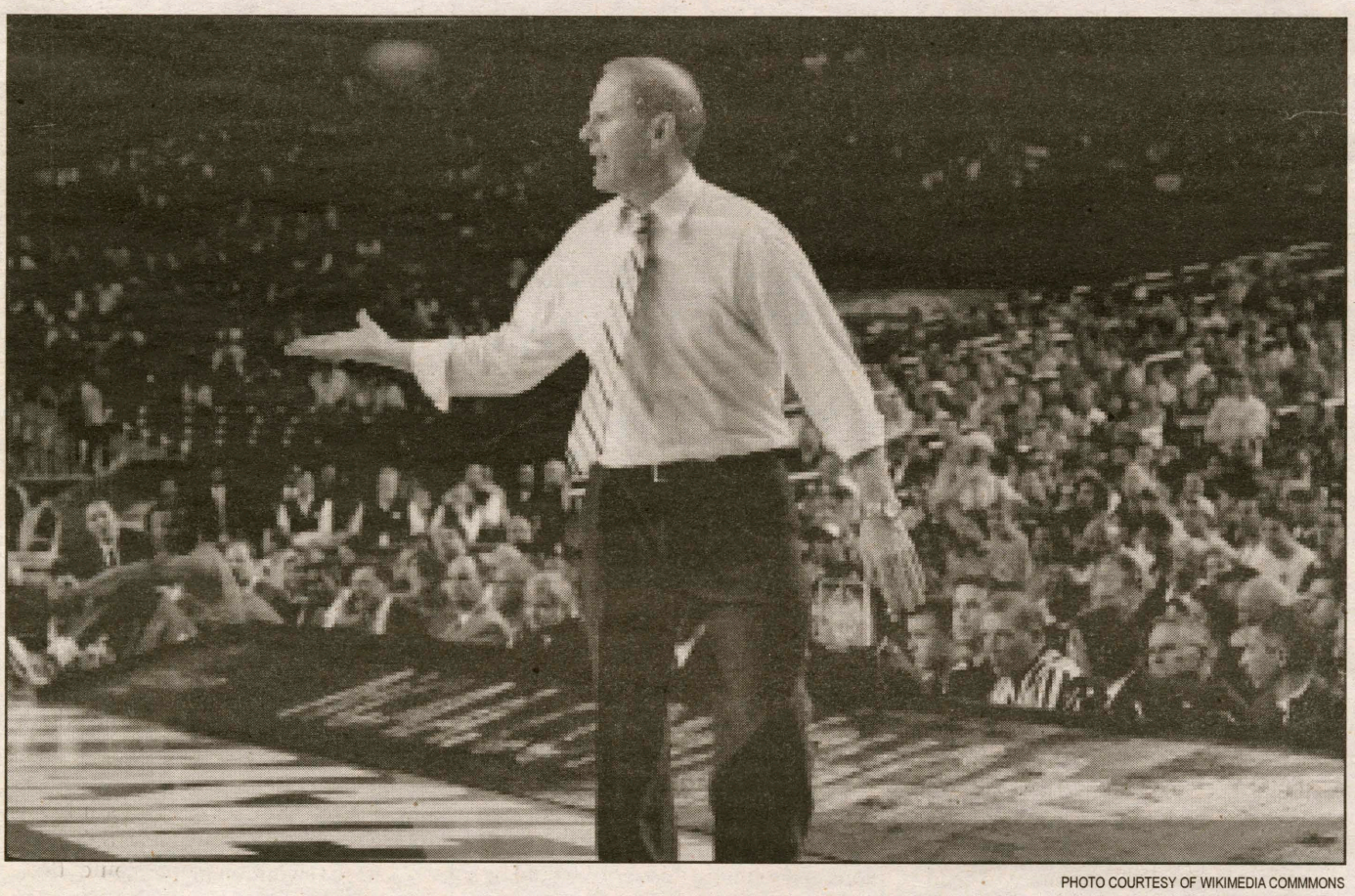

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMMONS

University of Michigan head coach John Beilein will make his second career Final Four appearance.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
March 29, 2018

Hamilton sports teams travel south for Spring Break competition

by Patrick Malin '18 & Levi Lorenzo '19
Sports Editors

Women's Lacrosse

Recap: The women's lacrosse team picked up a big 11-9 win against Colby to kick off spring break competition, but losses to nationally ranked Bowdoin and SUNY-Geneseo in Florida put a damper on the early season success
Record: 2-5 (1-3 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Kara Pooley '19- ten goals, three assists, 12 ground balls, 22 draw controls, 12 caused turnovers, 23 shots on goal.
Looking ahead: Following a non-conference game against Skidmore on Mar. 28, the Continentals will return to NESCAC play in a clash with #24 Bates at 12:00pm. on Mar. 31 in Lewiston, ME. After Saturday's game, the Continentals will enjoy home field advantage for their next three conference matchups (against Trinity, Williams, and Connecticut College).

PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT FILE

Track and Field

Recap: Members of the men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Jacksonville, FL over spring break to compete in the University of North Florida Spring Break Invitational.
Men's MVP: Eli Saucier '18 — Saucier finished eighth in the 100-meter dash (10.84) and fifth in the 200-meter dash (21.78).
Women's co-MVPs: Cat Berry '19 and Emily Hull '18 — Berry broke her own school record in the 400-meter dash (58.50), while Hull extended her school record hammer throw (46.29 meters) in North Florida.
Looking ahead: The Continentals will travel to SUNY-Geneseo on Mar. 31, where many athletes will compete outdoors for the first time this spring.

Men's Tennis

Recap: Hamilton men's tennis traveled to the United States Tennis Association Tennis Center in Lake Nona, FL to kick off the spring season. The Continentals fought valiantly throughout their Florida vacation, coming up against some of the top competitors in Division III tennis.
Record: 1-7 (0-2 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Sam Farber '20 — Farber has consistently played first flight doubles and singles and has won three doubles matches in a row as well as his most recent singles match leading Hamilton to a victory over Brooklyn College.

Men's Lacrossse

Recap: After tallying its first win, over Utica College prior to spring break, the men's lacrosse team fell to six straight opponents, including conference foes Bowdoin, #6 Amherst, and Colby.
Record: 1-7 (0-4 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Chad Morse '19 — 16 goals (tied for tenth in the NESCAC) on 38 shots, three assists, 65.8 shots on goal percentage, nine ground balls.
Looking Ahead: The Continentals will look to snap their losing streak with a win over the Bates Bobcats at 12:00p.m. on Mar. 31, kicking off a string of six straight conference matchups before the season finale against Hartwick. The team will need an impressive stretch of NESCAC play to earn their spot in the playoffs in April.

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

Softball

Recap: The softball team played thirteen games in Clermont, Florida and Minneola, Florida over a jam-packed Spring Break. Hamilton took home five wins in those thirteen games over Franklin & Marshall, Bethel, Oberlin, Sewanee, and SUNY New Paltz.
Record: 5-8 (0-0 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Outfielder Emily Fraser '20 — .442 Batting Average, .422 On Base Percentage, .721 Slugging Percentage, ten runs scored, 13 runs batted in, .1000 fielding percentage (through 13 games)
Looking Ahead: The Continentals host last year's NESCAC champion, Williams, in their first conference series this weekend. Hamilton plays the Ephs at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 30, and a 12:00 pm./ 2:00 pm. doubleheader on Saturday, Mar. 31 and looks to begin conference play on a strong note.

Women's Tennis

Recap: The women's tennis team traveled to Lake Nona, FL for four matches over spring break, playing at the USTA Tennis Center. The trip was highlighted by a 6-3 team victory over upstate, New York rivals, St. Lawrence.
Record: 2-5 (0-2 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Sophie Aulicino '21 — Aulicino has been consistent at second flight singles and has made a dangerous tandem with Jane Haffer '19 at first doubles.
Looking Ahead: With five NESCAC matches remaining (four at home), Hamilton looks to score victories in conference play and improve on their 1-6 conference record from last season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAWN CARROLL

Baseball

Recap: After weather cancellations in North Carolina, the baseball team played eleven games in Florida, losing the first seven but winning the last four. They extended their win streak to six games by sweeping SUNY Canton on Sunday at home.
Record: 6-7 (0-0 NESCAC)
Team MVP: Infielder Matt Zaffino '21 — .375 Batting Average, .500 On Base Percentage, .781 Slugging Percentage, ten runs scored, 12 runs batted in, two home runs (through 13 games)
Looking Ahead: The Continentals have a huge NESCAC series, the first of four, against Amherst. Hamilton and Amherst have played close over the past few seasons and winning this series would be a great start for Hamilton in the short, twelve-game NESCAC season.